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Louise Ackerman Named Catawba County Health Partners' Volunteer of the Year

During the 2009 Catawba County Health Partners Holiday Celebration, Louise Ackerman was presented with the William Pekman Volunteer of the Year Award.

The William Pekman Volunteer of the Year Award, named for Dr. William Pekman who was one of the co-founders and first Board President of Catawba County Health Partners, is given to a person whose leadership, commitment and energy has gone above and beyond the mission of Catawba County Health Partners and strives to address important health objectives in Catawba County.

“Louise is a great asset to Health Partners. Her tireless efforts have helped to make an impact on the community. Any community coalition would be lucky to have someone like Louise as a part of their advocacy group,” said Christina McNally, Community Outreach Manager for Catawba County Health Partners.



Louise Ackerman, center, received the William Peckman Volunteer of the Year Award from Christina McNally, Community Outreach Manager, Catawba County Health Partners and Dr. Tom Foster, President of Catawba Co. Health Partners.

Mrs. Ackerman serves as the Chairwoman for Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention (A.S.A.P.) of Catawba County. A.S.A.P. is a volunteer coalition made up of Catawba County residents with members from all segments of the community, including education, law enforcement, the criminal justice system, the faith community, mental health, social services, public health, local business, parents and youth that work together to combat underage drinking and substance abuse.

The coalition is part of Catawba County Health Partners, a local Healthy Carolinians partnership organized to enhance the quality of life for all people in Catawba County. Health Partners currently focuses on four health priorities: access to healthcare, childhood obesity, substance abuse, and cancer.

In addition to working with A.S.A.P., Mrs. Ackerman is an adjunct professor at Lenoir-Rhyne University and serves on the Steering Committee of the LRU Visiting Writers Series. She is also an editorial director for Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities, a national, non-profit organization for families of kids with learning disabilities & Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

“It’s extremely gratifying to work with so many smart and talented people who are willing to work tirelessly to make a difference in the community,” said Mrs. Ackerman of the A.S.A.P. coalition. “I’m grateful for the honor and appreciate the recognition from my colleagues.”

To learn more about A.S.A.P. or Catawba County Health Partners, please contact Lindsey Smith at 828-695-5817 or visit www.catawbacountyhealthpartners.org.

Partnering together to enhance the quality of life for all people in Catawba County